



## Mohawk/Nowadaga Creek Watershed (0202000407)

### Water Index Number

H-240 (portion 10)  
H-240 (portion 11)  
H-240-145 thru 184  
H-240-148  
H-240-148  
H-240-149  
H-240-181-P939  
H-240-185  
H-240-186 thru 196  
H-240-187  
H-240-187-  
H-240-187- 1-P940a  
H-240-190  
H-240-190  
H-240-190-2  
H-240-197  
H-240-198 thru 206

### Waterbody Segment

Mohawk River/NYS Barge Canal, Main Stem (1201-0091)  
Mohawk River/NYS Barge Canal, Main Stem (1201-0092)  
Minor Tribs to Mohawk River (1201-0192)  
Nowadaga Creek, Lower, and tribs (1201-0193)  
Nowadaga Creek, Upper, and tribs (1201-0194)  
Crum Creek and tribs (1201-0195)  
Mirror Lake (1201-0196)  
Fulmer Creek and tribs (1201-0012)  
Minor Tribs to Mohawk River (1201-0056)  
Steele Creek, Lower, and tribs (1201-0011)  
Steele Creek tribs (1201-0197)  
Ilion Reservoir No.3 (1201-0198)  
Moyer Creek, Lower, and tribs (1201-0057)  
Moyer Creek, Upper, and tribs (1201-0199)  
unnamed trib to Moyer Creek (1201-0200)  
Sterling Creek and tribs (1201-0013)  
Minor Tribs to Mohawk River (1201-0025)

### Category

Impaired Seg  
Impaired Seg  
NoKnownImpct  
MinorImpacts  
MinorImpacts  
NoKnownImpct  
UnAssessed  
MinorImpacts  
NoKnownImpct  
Threatened  
Impaired Seg  
Threatened  
NoKnownImpct  
NoKnownImpct  
UnAssessed  
MinorImpacts  
Need Verific

# Mohawk River/NYS Barge Canal, Main Stem ( 1201-0091) Impaired Seg

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/26/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240 (portion 10)      **Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/170      **Str Class:** C      Mohawk River  
**Waterbody Type:** River (High Flow)      **Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Waterbody Size:** 6.6 Miles      **Quad Map:** LITTLE FALLS (I-21-3)  
**Seg Description:** from below Little Falls to above Little Falls

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information (CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Suspected
Recreation	Stressed	Suspected

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBs)  
Suspected: Aesthetics (floatables), D.O./Oxygen Demand, Nutrients, Silt/Sediment  
Possible: Pathogens

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT  
Suspected: Agriculture, Comb. Sewer Overflow, Urban/Storm Runoff  
Possible: Industrial, Municipal

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** DOW/Reg6      **Resolution Potential:** Medium  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a->2b

## Further Details

### Overview

Fish consumption in this reach of the Mohawk River is known to be impaired as a result of a fish consumption advisory due to PCB levels. Aquatic life support and recreational uses (fishing, boating) in this reach are thought to experience minor impacts from urban/storm runoff and combined sewer overflows as well as agricultural nonpoint runoff from the larger upstream watershed. Municipal point sources (Herkimer, Little Falls) may contribute to water quality impacts as well.

### Fish Consumption

Fish consumption in the Mohawk River from Fivemile Dam below Little Falls to West Canada Creek is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no more than one meal per month of carp because of elevated PCB levels. The sources of PCBs are attributed to contaminated sediments. Industrial hazardous waste sites and landfills along the river corridor may be contributing some additional loading. This advisory was first issued prior to 1998-99. (2009-10 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DFWMR, Habitat, January 2010).

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of the Mohawk River in Little Falls (at Lock 17) was conducted as part of the RIBS

biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples some replacement of sensitive ubiquitous species by more tolerant species occurs, although the sample also includes a balanced distribution of all expected species. Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, however the community composition suggest conditions that cause some stress to aquatic life. These result are fairly consistent with results from this site from samples collected in 1990, 1995 and 2000. Water quality at this site has historically and routinely shown recovery from upstream urban (Utica) impacts. Improved water quality is likely due in part to the influence of West Canada Creek inflow. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

#### Water Quality Management

The NYSDEC has recently initiated a focused effort to conserve, preserve, and restore the environmental quality of the Mohawk River and its watershed, while helping to manage the resources of the region for a sustainable future. The establishment of a Mohawk River Basin Program to act as coordinator of basin-wide activities to achieve these goals is a key component of this effort. However the success of the program will require the involvement of stakeholders and the creation of partnerships with established programs and organizations throughout the basin. To this end, the Mohawk River Basin Program will follow the successful model of the Hudson River Estuary Program. Adopting a similar model will help accomplish the goal of developing a "whole Hudson" ecosystem-based management approach to managing the Hudson River Estuary. At the same time, a separate Mohawk River Basin Program promotes needed focus on the Mohawk Valley and its own unique culture, history, resources and concerns and a regional approach would help to address the unique challenges of the Basin. The first steps in fulfilling this mission are outlined in the Mohawk River Basin Program Action Agenda 2009-2014. (DEC/DOW, BWAM, January 2009).

#### Section 303(d) List

This reach of the Mohawk River is not currently included on the NYS 2008 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. However this updated assessment suggests it is appropriate to include this waterbody on the 2008 List due to the health advisory for PCBs. It is recommended that the current listing on Part 2b (Fish Consumption Waters) for the reach just upstream (portion 11) be extended to include this reach since the same advisory applies to both segments. This listing does not actually represent a new impairment, but an impairment that was overlooked in previous Lists. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQAS, January 2010)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the river/canal from Crum Creek (-149) below Little Falls (near Indian Castle) to trib -163 above Little Falls (near Jacksonburg).

# Mohawk River/NYS Barge Canal, Main Stem ( 1201-0092)

# Impaired Seg

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/26/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240 (portion 11)      **Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/      **Str Class:** B      Mohawk River  
**Waterbody Type:** River (High Flow)      **Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Waterbody Size:** 19.1 Miles      **Quad Map:** HERKIMER (I-21-4)  
**Seg Description:** from above Little Falls to East Schuyler

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Precluded	Known
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Suspected
Recreation	Stressed	Suspected

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBs)  
Suspected: Aesthetics (floatables), D.O./Oxygen Demand, Nutrients, Pathogens  
Possible: Silt/Sediment

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: LANDFILL/LAND DISP. (Utica/Leland Ave Landfill), TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT, Urban/Storm Runoff  
Suspected: Comb. Sewer Overflow  
Possible: Agriculture, Industrial, Municipal

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** DOW/Reg6      **Resolution Potential:** Medium  
**TMDL/303d Status:** 2b (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Fish Consumption)

## Further Details

### Overview

Fish consumption in this reach of the Mohawk River is known to be impaired as a result of a fish consumption advisory due to PCB levels. Aquatic life support and recreational uses (fishing, boating) in this reach are thought to experience minor impacts from urban/storm runoff and combined sewer overflows as well as agricultural nonpoint runoff from the larger upstream watershed. Municipal point sources (Herkimer) may contribute to water quality impacts as well.

### Fish Consumption

Fish consumption in the Mohawk River is impaired due to a NYSDOH health advisory along this entire reach. For the portion of the river from Fivemile Dam below Little Falls to West Canada Creek the advisory recommends eating no more than one meal per month of carp. The advisory for the remaining portion of this segment from West Canada Creek to Oriskany recommends eating no carp and no more than one meal per month of largemouth bass and tiger muskellunge. These advisories are the result of elevated PCB levels. The sources of PCBs are attributed to contaminated sediments. Industrial hazardous waste sites and landfills along the river corridor may be contributing some additional loading. This advisory was first issued prior to 1998-99. (2009-10 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DFWMR, Habitat, January 2010).

# Minor Tribs to Mohawk River ( 1201-0192)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/09/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-145 thru 184  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/170      **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)  
**Waterbody Size:** 104.5 Miles  
**Seg Description:** total length of select tribs, Inidan Castle to Herkimer

**Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Quad Map:** LITTLE FALLS (I-21-3)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 8 (No Known Use Impairment)  
**Verification Status:** (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** n/a  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

**Resolution Potential:** n/a

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Beaver Brook in Little Falls (at Route 231) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples the community is slightly altered from natural conditions. Some sensitive species are not present and the overall abundance of macroinvertebrates is lower. However, the effects on the fauna relatively insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate some elevated enrichment in the stream and fauna that is most similar to natural communities with some influence from nonpoint sources. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to designated uses. This site is considered representative of the other small tribs included within the segment. However, the level of assessment for this segment is considered to be "evaluated" rather than "monitored." (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the total length of selected/smaller tribs to the Mohawk River between East Canada Creek (-144) near Indian Castle and Fulmer Creek (-185) in Herkimer. Tribs within this segment, including Beaver Brook (-172) and Spohn Creek (-178), are primarily Class C,C(T); with one trib (-184) designated Class D. Nowadaga Creek (-148), Crum Creek (-149), West Canada Creek (-180) and Fulmer Creek (185) are listed separately.

# Nowadaga Creek, Lower, and tribs ( 1201-0193)

MinorImpacts

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-148  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/170      **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)  
**Waterbody Size:** 39.2 Miles  
**Seg Description:** stream and tribs, from mouth to Newville

**Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Quad Map:** VAN HORNESVILLE (J-21-2)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: NUTRIENTS  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: AGRICULTURE  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 2 (Problem Verified, Cause Unknown)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** ext/WQCC  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

**Resolution Potential:** n/a

## Further Details

### Overview

Aquatic life in this portion of Nowadaga Creek is known to experience minor impacts due to elevated nutrient and silt/sediment loads from agricultural activity and other nonpoint sources.

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Nowadaga Creek in Newville (at Route 136) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples some replacement of sensitive ubiquitous species by more tolerant species occurs, although the sample also includes a balanced distribution of all expected species. Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, however the community composition and nutrient biotic evaluation suggest conditions and levels of enrichment are sufficient to cause some stress to aquatic life. Impact source determination found the fauna to be most similar to natural communities, but with influences from nonpoint sources. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Nowadaga Creek was also conducted near the mouth in Indian Castle (at Route 5S) in 2000. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. No specific sources were indicated by the fauna, although diatoms and other algae at the site pointed to nutrient enrichment. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. Active manure spreading and influences from a road maintenance facility (sand pile) have been noted. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from the mouth to Ohisa Creek (-12) near Newville. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C. Upper Nowadaga Creek is listed separately.

# Nowadaga Creek, Upper, and tribs ( 1201-0194)

MinorImpacts

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/04/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-148	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/170	<b>Str Class:</b>	C(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	42.2 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	VAN HORNESVILLE (J-21-2)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	stream and tribs, above Newville		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: NUTRIENTS  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: AGRICULTURE  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	2 (Problem Verified, Cause Unknown)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	ext/WQCC	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> Medium
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Overview

Aquatic life in this portion of Nowadaga Creek is known to experience minor impacts due to elevated nutrient and silt/sediment loads from agricultural activity and other nonpoint sources.

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Nowadaga Creek in Newville (at Route 136) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples some replacement of sensitive ubiquitous species by more tolerant species occurs, although the sample also includes a balanced distribution of all expected species. Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, however the community composition and nutrient biotic evaluation suggest conditions and levels of enrichment are sufficient to cause some stress to aquatic life. Impact source determination found the fauna to be most similar to natural communities, but with influences from nonpoint sources. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. Active manure spreading and influences from a road maintenance facility (sand pile) have been noted. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above/including Ohisa Creek (-12) near Newville. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Ohisa Creek (-12), are Class C,C(T). Lower Nowadaga Creek is listed separately.

# Crum Creek and tribs ( 1201-0195)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

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Revised: 08/16/2002

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-149	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/170	<b>Str Class:</b>	C
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	27.3 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	LITTLE FALLS (I-21-3)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire stream and tribs		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

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(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

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<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

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### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Crum Creek in Manheim Center was conducted in 2000. Sampling results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions. All indices were within the range of very good water quality. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C,C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are Class C. There are two tribs to the Mohawk in this area named Crum Creek. This stream enters the Mohawk to the west of East Canada Creek.

# Fulmer Creek and tribs ( 1201-0012)

# MinorImpacts

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 10/30/2002

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-185	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/070	<b>Str Class:</b>	C
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	56.6 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	ILION (I-20-3)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire stream and tribs		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

<b>Use(s) Impacted</b>	<b>Severity</b>	<b>Problem Documentation</b>
Habitat/Hydrology	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: SILT/SEDIMENT  
Suspected: Water Level/Flow  
Possible: - - -

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: HABITAT MODIFICATION, HYDRO MODIFICATION, Streambank Erosion  
Suspected: - - -  
Possible: - - -

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	ext/WQCC	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> Medium
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Overview

Natural resources habitat and hydrology in Fulmer Creek are known to experience impacts due to channelization of the creek near the mouth (below the Main Street Bridge). The channelization is designed to address flooding episodes with the Village of Mohawk which occur during heavy rain events and ice jams during the spring thaw. A significant streambank erosion area at the creek confluence with the Mohawk River is also a concern. The NYS Canal Corporation is investigating possible streambank restoration and retention projects to address this issue. (Herkimer County WQCC, April 2002)

### Water Quality Sampling

NYSDEC Rotating Integrated Basin Studies (RIBS) Intensive Network monitoring of Fulmer Creek in Mohawk, Herkimer County, (at Route 5S) was conducted in 2005 and 2006. Intensive Network sampling typically includes macroinvertebrate community analysis, water column chemistry, toxicity testing, sediment assessment and macroinvertebrate tissue analysis. Biological (macroinvertebrate) sampling indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples some replacement of sensitive ubiquitous species by more tolerant species occurs, although the sample also includes a balanced distribution of all expected species. Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, however the community composition and nutrient biotic evaluation suggest conditions and levels of enrichment are sufficient to cause some stress to aquatic life. Impact source determination found the fauna to be most similar to communities influenced by municipal/urban runoff. Water column chemistry indicates pathogens (coliform) to be present at levels that constitute a parameter of concern. The

geometric mean of fecal coliform results were strongly influenced by one particularly high value. Total coliform was not found to be high. Toxicity testing using water from this location detected no significant mortality or reproductive effects on the test organism. Sediment screening for acute toxicity indicated no sediment toxicity. Bottom sediments collected from this site revealed (somewhat) elevated levels of.... [However based on sediment quality guidelines developed for freshwater ecosystems, overall sediment quality is not likely to cause chronic toxicity to sediment-dwelling organisms.] Macroinvertebrate tissue collected at this site and chemically analyzed for selected metals showed (no contaminants/xxx) to be of concern/elevated levels of metals that should continue to be monitored.

Based on the consensus of these established assessment methods, overall water quality at this site shows that in spite of some concerns regarding pathogens that should continue to be monitored, aquatic life and recreational uses are considered to be fully supported in the stream. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/RIBS, January 2010)

A biological assessment of Fulmer Creek in Mohawk was also conducted in 2000. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions, attributed to nonpoint source nutrient enrichment. The fauna was dominated by midges and mayflies. These results are consistent with more recent sampling. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000).

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C,C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Ford Creek (-4), Flat Creek (-5) and Day Creek (-6) are also Class C,C(T).

# Minor Tribs to Mohawk River ( 1201-0056)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/09/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-186 thru 196  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/070      **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)      **Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Waterbody Size:** 63.4 Miles      **Quad Map:** ILION (I-20-3)  
**Seg Description:** total length of select tribs, Herkimer to W.Schuyler

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 8 (No Known Use Impairment)  
**Verification Status:** (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** n/a      **Resolution Potential:** n/a  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Bonny Brook in Frankfort (at Old Route 5S) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples the community is slightly altered from natural conditions. Some sensitive species are not present and the overall abundance of macroinvertebrates is lower. However, the effects on the fauna appear to be relatively insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate some enrichment in the stream and fauna that is most similar to communities influenced by nonpoint sources. In spite of these minor impacts, aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to designated uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the total length of selected/smaller tribs to the Mohawk River between Fulmer Creek (-185) in Herkimer and Sterling Creek near West Schuyler. Tribs within this segment, including Bridenbecker Creek (-194), Bonny Brook (-195) and Pratt Creek (-196), are Class C. Fulmer Creek (-185), Steele Creek (-187), Moyer Creek (-190) and Sterling Creek (-197) are listed separately.

# Steele Creek, Lower, and tribs ( 1201-0011)

**Threatened**

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-187  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/080      **Str Class:** C(TS)  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)      **Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Waterbody Size:** 40.6 Miles      **Quad Map:** ILION (I-20-3)  
**Seg Description:** stream and tribs, from mouth to near Spinnerville

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information (CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Threatened	Known
Habitat/Hydrology	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: SILT/SEDIMENT  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: HABITAT MODIFICATION, STREAMBANK EROSION, Agriculture, Hydro Modification  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** DEC/Reg6      **Resolution Potential:** Medium  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

## Further Details

### Overview

Natural resources (fishery) habitat in Steele Creek is considered to be threatened by streambank erosion exacerbated by stream channelization. Agricultural practices in the watershed also threaten the trout fishery in the stream.

### Source Assessment

The Village of Ilion dredges the stream according to a revised management plan in order to reduce flooding problems. The village is cooperating with the DEC regional staff in minimizing streambank disturbance. However, hydromodification (channelization) of portions of this reach by heavy equipment continues to increase sediment in the creek and into the Mohawk River. (DEC/DOW, Region 6, April 2002)

Above Cedarville, the stream experiences impacts from agricultural activity. Streambank vegetation has been removed in many locations and livestock have unrestricted access to portions of the stream, resulting in large areas of unstable banks. (DEC/DFWMR, Region 6, April 2002)

In the spring of 2001 a significant landslide into the creek from a former gravel mining operation (Ferdula Gravel Products) occurred. NYS DEC inspections of the site found the site to be very unstable and the to have a potential for future

landslides and erosion. The site has since been stabilized and revegetated and Mineral Resources staff have declared the site reclaimed. It is no longer listed as a regulated mine, nor is the site considered to pose any water quality issues. (DEC/Env.Permits, Region 6, October 2002)

#### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Steele Creek in Ilion (at Clark Street) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples the community is slightly altered from natural conditions. Some sensitive species are not present and the overall abundance of macroinvertebrates is lower. However, the effects on the fauna appear to be (relatively) insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate some elevated enrichment in the stream but a fauna that is most similar to natural communities. These results are consistent with biological field sampling results found in 2000. Those results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions. The sample satisfied field screening criteria and was returned to the stream. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000).

#### Fishery Management

Steele Creek is one of only a few wild rainbow trout streams in the region and consider to be a very productive and valuable aquatic resource. NYS DEC has obtained over one-half mile of fishing rights on the stream along the gorge. The stream is stocked with rainbow trout by both DEC and the Ilion Fish and Game Club. (DEC/DFWMR, Region 6, April 2002)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and tribs from the mouth to trib -2b near Spinnerville. The waters of this portion of the stream, including Gulf Stream/Steele Creek (-2) are Class C(TS). Tribs to this reach/segment are Class C,C(TS). Upper Steele Creek, an upper reach of unnamed trib (-1), and a portion of Beckus Gulf/Litchfield Creek (-2-5) are listed separately.



Water quality monitoring at a downstream site by Herkimer County WQCC identified elevated pathogens (E. coli) and nitrate-nitrogen during large runoff events in 2000 and 2001. (Herkimer County WQCC, April 2002)

#### Source (Drinking) Water Assessment

A source water assessment of Iliion water supply reservoirs and intakes found high susceptibility for contamination by protozoa due to the amount of agricultural lands in the watershed. This assessment was conducted through the NYSDOH Source Waters Assessment Program (SWAP) which compiles, organizes, and evaluates information regarding possible and actual threats to the quality of public water supply (PWS) sources. The information contained in SWAP assessment reports assists in the oversight and protection of public water systems. It is important to note that SWAP reports estimate the potential for untreated drinking water sources to be impacted by contamination and do not address the quality of treated finished potable tap water. This water supply source provides water to the Village of Iliion. (NYSDOH, Source Water Assessment Program, 2005)

#### Section 303d Listing

The Steele Creek Tribs segment is included on the NYS 2008 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake is included on Part 1 of the List as a waterbody segment requiring the development of a TMDL or other strategy to attain water quality standards for phosphorus. This waterbody was first listed on the 2004 Section 303(d) List. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQAS, January 2010)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the waters of the Iliion Water Supply including a the portion of unnamed trib -1 above a point 0.5 miles above the mouth, the portion of Steele/Hawk Creek above trib -2b (which is generally considered to be the Upper Steele Creek) near Spinnerville, and a portion of Beckus Gulf/Litchfield Creek (-2-5). The waters of these portion of the stream are Class A(T),A(TS). Steele Creek is listed separately.

# Ilion Reservoir No.3 ( 1201-0198)

**Threatened**

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/08/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-187- 1-P940a	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/080	<b>Str Class:</b>	A(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	Lake(R)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	38.0 Acres	<b>Quad Map:</b>	MILLERS MILLS (J-20-2)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire reservoir		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Water Supply	Threatened	Suspected

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: OTHER POLLUTANTS

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: OTHER SOURCE

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	3 (Strategy Being Implemented)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	5 (Management Strategy has been Developed)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	ext/	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> Medium
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Overview

Water supply use in Ilion Reservoir is thought to be threatened by various pollutants from runoff from agricultural pasturelands.

### Source (Drinking) Water Assessment

A source water assessment of Ilion Reservoir #3 found high susceptibility for contamination by protozoa due to the amount of agricultural lands in the watershed. This assessment was conducted through the NYSDOH Source Waters Assessment Program (SWAP) which compiles, organizes, and evaluates information regarding possible and actual threats to the quality of public water supply (PWS) sources. The information contained in SWAP assessment reports assists in the oversight and protection of public water systems. It is important to note that SWAP reports estimate the potential for untreated drinking water sources to be impacted by contamination and do not address the quality of treated finished potable tap water. This water supply source provides water to the Village of Ilion. (NYSDOH, Source Water Assessment Program, 2005)

# Moyer Creek, Lower, and tribs ( 1201-0057)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-190	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/070	<b>Str Class:</b>	B(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	9.6 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	ILION (I-20-3)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	stream and tribs, from mouth to Gulph		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Moyer Creek in Frankfort (at Main Street) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated non-impacted conditions. Such samples are dominated by clean-water species and are most similar to a natural community with minimal human impacts. Some additional species, including sensitive non-native species, and additional biomass may be present; the samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. Aquatic life community is fully supported. These results are consistent with sampling conducted at this site in 2000. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010) This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000).

### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from the mouth to trib -5 near Gulph. The waters of this portion of the stream, are primarily Class B(T); with the lower reach below Route 5S designated Class C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are primarily Class C,C(T). Upper Moyer Creek and unnamed trib -2 are listed separately.

# Moyer Creek, Upper, and tribs ( 1201-0199)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/01/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240-190	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020004/070	<b>Str Class:</b>	A(TS)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	6/Herkimer Co. (22)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	23.9 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	UTICA EAST (I-20-4)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	stream and tribs, above Gulph		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Moyer Creek in Frankfort (at Main Street) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated non-impacted conditions. Such samples are dominated by clean-water species and are most similar to a natural community with minimal human impacts. Some additional species, including sensitive non-native species, and additional biomass may be present; the samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. Aquatic life community is fully supported. These results are consistent with sampling conducted at this site in 2000. Though this sampling site is below the actual reach, results are considered representative of the upstream segment. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

### Previous Assessment

Previously cited algal blooms in Village of Frankfort reservoir that stresses its use for water supply need to be verified. Thought classified as to support use as a drinking water supply, the reservoir is no longer used as a supply. The Village drilled wells as an alternative to the surface water supply. (DEC/DOW, Region 6, April 2002)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above/including trib -5 near Gulph. The waters of this portion of the stream, are Class A(TS). Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class A(TS). Lower Moyer Creek is listed separately.

# Sterling Creek and tribs ( 1201-0013)

# MinorImpacts

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-197  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/070      **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)  
**Waterbody Size:** 88.6 Miles  
**Seg Description:** entire stream and tribs

**Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Reg/County:** 6/Herkimer Co. (22)  
**Quad Map:** ILION (I-20-3)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Suspected
Recreation	Stressed	Possible
Habitat/Hydrology	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: SILT/SEDIMENT  
Suspected: Water Level/Flow  
Possible: - - -

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: HABITAT MODIFICATION, STREAMBANK EROSION  
Suspected: Hydro Modification  
Possible: - - -

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** DEC/Reg6  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

**Resolution Potential:** Medium

## Further Details

### Overview

Aquatic life support, recreation uses and natural resources habitat in Sterling Creek are known to experience minor impacts due to hydrologic and habitat modifications and resulting silt and sediment loadings to the stream.

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Sterling Creek in East Schuyler (at Route 5) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples some replacement of sensitive ubiquitous species by more tolerant species occurs, although the sample also includes a balanced distribution of all expected species. Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, however the community composition and nutrient biotic evaluation suggest conditions and levels of enrichment are sufficient to cause some stress to aquatic life. Impact source determination found the fauna to be most similar to communities influenced by nonpoint sources and some toxicity. These results are consistent with results from sampling conducted at this site in 2000. That sample was field assessed as having slight impacts as well. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

This stream is included in a network of water quality sampling sites monitored by the Herkimer County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. Land uses that may impact water quality include agriculture and logging. (Herkimer County WQCC, 2000).

#### Source Assessment

NYS DOT and the Town of Schuyler have been known to remove sediments and channelize the lower reach of the stream with bulldozers leaving material on the banks and destroying habitats and nursery areas. Water quality studies by the county WQCC at an upstream site (Bush Road) found significant volumetric fluctuations and sediment transport. Turbidity measurements were found to vary significantly, with maximum readings of 300 NTU. (Herkimer County WQCC, April 2002)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C.

# Minor Tribs to Mohawk River ( 1201-0025)

Need Verific

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/14/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240-198 thru 206  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020004/060    **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)    **Reg/County:** 6/Oneida Co. (33)  
**Waterbody Size:** 85.0 Miles    **Quad Map:** UTICA EAST (I-20-4)  
**Seg Description:** total length of selected tribs, fr W.Schuyler to Rome

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Possible

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: UNKNOWN TOXICITY  
Possible: Nutrients, Silt/Sediment

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: AGRICULTURE, URBAN/STORM RUNOFF  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 1 (Waterbody Nominated, Problem Not Verified)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** DOW/BWAM    **Resolution Potential:** Medium  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

## Further Details

### Overview

Aquatic life in these tribs to the Mohawk River may experience minor impacts. Various sources, including agricultural activity and urban runoff are possible contributors of pollutants. However water quality monitoring to date has been limited and inconclusive. Impacts on water uses need to be verified.

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Wood Creek in West Schuyler (at Route 5) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated moderately impacted conditions. In such samples sensitive species are markedly reduced or missing and the distribution of major groups is significantly unbalanced relative to what would be expected. Samples are dominated by more tolerant species. The nutrient biotic index indicates some enrichment. However sampling was conducted during low flow using alternative sample collection protocols (Robertson Kick). Such conditions are known to skew biological sampling results and are not a true reflection of water quality. Further investigation and/or other indicators are required to determine the extent of water quality impacts, if any. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

A biological assessment of Ferguson Creek in Frankfort Center (at Welshbush Road) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples the

community is slightly altered from natural conditions. Some sensitive species are not present and the overall abundance of macroinvertebrates is lower. However, the effects on the fauna appear to be (relatively) insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate some enrichment in the stream and fauna that is most similar to communities influenced by nonpoint sources. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2009)

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the total length of selected/smaller tribs to the Mohawk River between Sterling Creek near West Schuyler and Starch Factory Creek in Utica. Tribs within this segment, including Burch Creek (-198), Knapp Brook (-199), Wood Creek (-201), Ferguson Creek (-202) and Budlong Creek (-203) are Class C,C(T),C(TS). Sterling Creek (-197) and Starch Factory Creek (-207) are listed separately.